

## COMMENTS

All of the comments were read and categorized. They are presented here in the order of frequency and examples are provided where relevant.

1. Thanks to particular persons or department staff, such as at the library, sports center, and for asking for input.
2. Praise for the City itself, gratitude for being able to live here.
3. Speeding and other moving violations (run stop signs, lights): mentioned in many locations, but most frequently some major arteries—Skyline, David, Prescott, Mar Vista, Casanova.
4. The police: the majority expresses a desire to have the police available, virtually everywhere, to ticket anyone who breaks a law (from speeding to littering), whereas a few are complaints about ticketing or officer behavior.
5. The homeless and panhandlers: this category of comment has risen dramatically over this decade; some say ban panhandling; it is often related to other comments on safety and on the cleanliness of the streets/sidewalks; frequently mentioned sites are the Transit Plaza, Alvarado, library, recreation trail, the park near Del Monte Center, parking lots.
6. Compliments on particular City services, such as the Parks and Recreation activities for youth, the senior center / programs / housing support, the sports center.
7. Cleanliness: downtown is the most frequently mentioned location in need of cleaning, especially Alvarado, both the streets and the sidewalks; also mentioned frequently as places that need cleaning include the beach, Cannery Row, and the wharf.
8. Street conditions: most often the street repairs sought are in local neighborhoods, but citizens frequently mentioned these locations where the streets need repair: Cannery Row, Skyline, Jefferson and around the Defense Language Institute (DLI, at the Presidio).
9. Traffic congestion: most mentioned are the major byways—Lighthouse, Skyline, Del Monte, Fremont, Foam, around the Naval Postgraduate School (NPS) and DLI.
10. Sidewalks: citizens wrote more often about the need for more sidewalks in their local neighborhood, but downtown and New Monterey were commonly mentioned as specific places where the sidewalks need cleaning.
11. Library: in addition to the compliments the staff receive (see # 1), many expressed concern about further cutbacks, particularly the effect of cutting Sundays for those who work during the week, cutbacks on staff, and requests for more hours.
12. Criticism of the City council, staff, managers and programs, and advice on how to spend money, save money, and raise money.

Other comments were made on such diverse issues as safety (from panhandlers to gang presence, alleged drug trafficking on Cannery Row), noise pollution (dogs, car stereos, mufflers, sirens, airplanes), street sweepers that end up doing only the middle of the street, shrubs blocking sidewalks and view of the intersection, trees that need pruning, the 4<sup>th</sup> of July celebrations (yes to cutting fireworks, missing fireworks, like party, don't like party), want more things only online (City Focus, the survey) and thanks that they are printed for those who don't use computers, call for a ban on Roundup, a long list of wants from pre-school and after-school programs to child care, better care of the cemetery, better lighting on bike trails, complaints about cars on sidewalks, cars on yards, boats parked on street, oil-leaking cars parked, dog feces, raccoons, feral cats, fire trucks that roll with ambulances, subsidized ambulances. Not to mention the things that the City is not responsible for, such as more buses, a train stop, a grocery store near downtown, and more than a few who want the City to take over the school district (MPUSD).

What are no longer as common in the written comments as they were at the start of the decade are pleas for more affordable housing, more parking available everywhere, water issues, and interactions with the military communities.